

CLMPTO 09/29/04 JW

These Claims Will Replace All Claims

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Original) A method of providing summary information about recipients of multicast sessions, comprising the steps of:
enhancing the operation of an edge device to count the number of recipient hosts of an IP multicast session;
storing the count in a measurement device and supplementing the count with information supplied from a directory source;
generating aggregate information about suchness levels and demographics of recipient hosts of the multicast session; and
supplying the information to a supplier of the multicast session permitting an immediate evaluation and response.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein:
the step of enhancing the operation of an edge device includes a step of counting streams traversing a NUI type edge device using an unicast link between the edge device and the recipient hosts.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein:
the step of enhancing the operation of an edge device includes a step of enhancing a protocol message to provide IP addresses of recipient hosts of the multicast session connected to the edge device.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including:
a step of reporting ICMP membership and leave group reports from a host recipient to an edge device.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including:
a step of aggregating information collected to insure privacy of individual host recipients.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein:
the step of supplying information includes a step of billing the supplier for the information provided.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein:
the step of supplementing the count includes a step of creating a directory listing members of groups of multicast host recipients.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including a step of:
enhancing ICMP messages to include IP addresses of hosts that join and leave multicast sessions.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including a step of:
including ICMP software in an edge router and in a host PC to report IP addresses of host recipients as they join and leave multicast sessions.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including a step of:
including with an edge router an enhancement to provide IP addresses of host computers that join and leave multicast sessions.

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